# **EXHIBIT B**

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

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March 7, 2025

# **VIA MDL CENTRALITY, CERTIFIED MAIL, AND EMAIL**

Re: MDL 3084 – Order re Withdrawal of Counsel in Case No. 3:24-CV-05217-CRB, MDLC ID 2007

Dear Jane Doe,

We write on behalf of our client, Uber Technologies Inc. ("Uber"), regarding *Jane Doe EB 19* v. *Uber Technologies, Inc., et al.*, 3:24-CV-05217-CRB, MDLC ID 2007, which you filed in *In re Uber Technologies, Inc. Passenger Sexual Assault Litigation*, 3:23-md-03084-CRB ("the MDL"). On January 29, 2025, Estey & Bomberger, LLP moved to withdraw its representation of you on the grounds that they have been unable to reach you since September 21, 2023 despite "numerous attempts to contact [you] via phone, email, and text." *Jane Doe EB 19*, No. 3:24-CV-05217-CRB, ECF 5 at 2 (Exhibit 1). On March 3, 2025, the Court granted that motion. *Jane Doe EB 19*, No. 3:24-CV-05217-CRB, ECF 6 at 1 (Exhibit 2). It is our understanding that you have not found replacement counsel and are no longer represented by an attorney. If that understanding is incorrect, please provide this communication to your attorney, and have your attorney contact us via the information provided above or below as soon as possible.

The Court's Order states that "Within 28 days of this order, [the] plaintiff shall file a notice indicating whether they intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing themselves. If [the] plaintiff does not file that notice, the Court will dismiss their case without prejudice." Exhibit 2 at 1. The Court also ordered Uber's counsel to "provide a copy of this order to the plaintiff[]." *Id.* The Court's Order is attached to this correspondence as Exhibit 2. Per this Order, you must "file a notice indicating whether [you] intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing [yourself]" within 28 days of March 3, 2025, i.e. by Monday, March 31, 2025, or else "the Court will dismiss [your] case without prejudice."

We ask that you please email us confirmation of your receipt of this letter, via email to <a href="mailto:ksmith@paulweiss.com">ksmith@paulweiss.com</a>, <a href="mailto:lhugre@paulweiss.com">lhugre@paulweiss.com</a>, at your earliest opportunity. If you would like to discuss the letter's contents further, please let us know, and we would be happy to organize a meet and confer.

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

Jane Doe EB 19

Sincerely,

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

By: /s/ Kyle Smith

Kyle Smith 2001 K Street, NW Washington, DC 20006 (202) 223-7407 ksmith@paulweiss.com

# EXHIBIT 1

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	Stephen J. Estey (SBN 163093) R. Michael Bomberger (SBN 169866) Angela J. Nehmens (SBN 309433) ESTEY & BOMBERGER, LLP 2869 India Street San Diego, CA 92103 Tel: (619) 295-0035 Fax: (619) 295-0172 Email: steve@estey-bomberger.com Email: mike@estey-bomberger.com Email: angela@estey-bomberger.com	
10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
11	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
12	SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION	
13 14	IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC., PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT	MDL No. 3084 CRB
15	LITIGATION	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION
16		TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF JANE DOE EB 19
17 18	This Document Relates to:	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
19	JANE DOE EB 19 v. UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC., et al.	Judge: Hon. Charles R. Breyer Date: March 7, 2025
20	Case No. 3:24-cv-05217	Time: 10:00 a.m. Courtroom: 6 – 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor; Videoconference
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24	NOTICE OF MOTION & MOTION	
25	TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL OF RECORD, PLEASE TAKE NOTICE	
26	that on Friday, March 7, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. by videoconference (accessible at	
27	https://canduscourts.zoomgov.com/j/1611472837?pwd=cy81NUdINWZmeEpFUjlHRXM3djZ5	
28	QT09), before the Honorable Charles R. Breyer, in Courtroom 6 of this Court, located at 450	
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Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, Estey & Bomberger LLP (E&B), counsel of record for Plaintiff Jane Doe EB 19 ("Plaintiff"), moves this Court for an order permitting its withdrawal as counsel for Plaintiff.

This Motion is made pursuant to Local Rule 11-5(a) and California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4) and 1.16(d). This Notice of Motion & Motion is based on the below Memorandum in Support and the accompanying Declaration of Angela J. Nehmens, filed herewith as Exhibit A. A Proposed Order is attached as Exhibit B.

# MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 11-5(a) and California Rules of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4) and 1.16(d), E&B submits this Memorandum of Law in support of its Motion to Withdraw as Counsel for Plaintiff Jane Doe EB 19. E&B respectfully requests the Court grant the Motion.

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

Plaintiff Jane Doe EB 19 is currently represented by E&B. Plaintiff's claims were filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California as Case No. 3:24-cv-05217 on August 15, 2024. Plaintiff's case was consolidated into the multidistrict litigation *In re: Uber Technologies, Inc. Passenger Sexual Assault Litigation*, Case No. 3:23-md-03084, on August 16, 2024.

E&B has been unable to reach Plaintiff since September 21, 2023. *See* Ex. A, Declaration of Angela J. Nehmens ("Nehmens Decl.") at ¶ 2. E&B has made numerous attempts to contact Plaintiff via phone, email, and text. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 4(a)-(d). E&B repeatedly explained why Plaintiff's participation was necessary to prosecute this case. *Id.* Since June 6, 2024, E&B has also sent three letters via US Mail noting discovery deadlines, explaining the risk of dismissal, and explaining that E&B could not continue to represent Plaintiff without herinvolvement. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 4(b)-(d). During this time, E&B continued to meet and confer with opposing counsel, seeking extensions for discovery deadlines to protect Plaintiff's interests. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 5.

On October 29, 2024, E&B formally advised Plaintiff by email and Certified Mail that it would be unable to move forward with her case and that Uber would move to dismiss her case if her Plaintiff Fact Sheet (PFS) was unable to be completed. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 4(c). E&B also advised Uber of its intent to withdraw. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 7. To date, Plaintiff has not contacted E&B, has not agreed to or informed E&B of her desire to voluntarily dismiss her case, and has not informed E&B that alternate counsel has been retained. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 6. E&B thus remains counsel of record for Plaintiff but also remains unable to reach her.

### **ARGUMENT**

E&B should be permitted to withdraw as counsel for Plaintiff. An attorney may withdraw from a case by obtaining an order from the court after reasonable advance written notice has been provided to the client and to all other parties. Civ. L.R. 11-5(a). Attorneys practicing before this Court are also required to adhere to the California Rules of Professional Conduct. Civ. L.R. 11-4(a)(1). Under those rules, a "lawyer shall not terminate a representation until the lawyer has taken reasonable steps to avoid reasonably foreseeable prejudice to the rights of the client." Cal. Rules. Prof. Conduct 1.16(d)(1).

E&B has given Plaintiff appropriate advance notice of requirements to continue her case beginning on June 6, 2024 and culminating with final notice on October 29, 2024. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 4(b)-(d). E&B has also given advance notice to Uber. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 7. E&B has taken all steps possible to avoid prejudice to Plaintiff. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 8. In multiple letters, calls, emails, and texts, E&B explained the consequences of failing to contact the firm or to meet discovery deadlines. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 4. At no time has Plaintiff replied to our communications. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 6. E&B also continued negotiating discovery extensions with Uber for the past two months to protect Plaintiff's case from dismissal. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 5. E&B has thus taken all reasonable steps to avoid foreseeable prejudice to the Plaintiff. Nehmens Decl. ¶ 8.

Under California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(b)(4), a lawyer may withdraw from a case if "the client . . . renders it unreasonably difficult for the lawyer to carry out the representation effectively." Here, Plaintiff has failed to communicate with E&B and failed to provide information required to prosecute her case. Nehmens Decl. ¶¶ 2-3. E&B has been unable

to meet discovery deadlines in this case because, for example, the Plaintiff Fact Sheet requires Plaintiff's input and verification. *See* Nehmens Decl. ¶ 3. Plaintiff's conduct thus falls into the express terms of Rule 1.16 regarding permissive withdrawal.

Because this motion is not accompanied by a substitution of counsel or an agreement by Plaintiff to proceed pro se, E&B agrees to the condition imposed by Local Rule 11-5(b) to serve Plaintiffs with all papers in this matter, unless or until Plaintiff appears pro se, other counsel appears on Plaintiff's behalf, or upon further order of the Court. *See* Nehmens Decl. ¶ 9.

## **CONCLUSION**

E&B respectfully requests that the Court enter an order terminating its representation of Plaintiff Jane Doe EB 19 and allowing Plaintiff 30 days to retain new counsel.

DATED: January 29, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

**ESTEY & BOMBERGER, LLP** 

/s/ Angela J. Nehmens, Esq.
Stephen J. Estey
Angela J. Nehmens

**Attorneys for Plaintiff** 

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** I hereby certify that on January 29, 2025, I electronically filed the above document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will automatically send notification of the filing to all counsel of record. By: /s/ Angela J. Nehmens 

# EXHIBIT 2

# Northern District of California

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC., PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084

This Order Relates To:

See Attachment

# ORDER GRANTING MOTIONS TO WITHDRAW

Re: Dkt. Nos. 2109, 2110, 2112, 2173, 2175, 2176, 2178, 2179, 2180

The above captioned motions to withdraw are granted. Within 28 days of this order, each plaintiff shall file a notice indicating whether they intend to pursue the action with new counsel or representing themselves. If any plaintiff does not file that notice, the Court will dismiss their case without prejudice.

Uber's counsel shall provide a copy of this order to the plaintiffs and file a declaration within 7 days of this ruling explaining how they did so.

# IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: March 3, 2025

CHARLES R. BREYER United States District Judge

# **ATTACHMENT**

# This Order relates to:

<u>S.H.</u> v. <u>Uber, Inc.</u>, Case No. 3:24-cv-07156-CRB

<u>B.S. v. Uber, Inc.</u>, Case No. 3:24-cv-06948-CRB

<u>C.S. v. Uber, Inc.</u>, Case No. 3:24-cv-06923-CRB

Jane Doe EB 22 v. Uber, Inc., Case No. 3:24-cv-05245-CRB

Naccarato v. Uber, Inc., Case No. 3:24-cv-05312-CRB

Jane Doe EB 19 v. Uber, Inc., Case No. 3:24-cv-05217-CRB

Jane Doe EB 10 v. Uber, Inc., Case No. 3:24-cv-05197-CRB

<u>K.B. v. Uber, Inc.</u>, Case No. 3:24-cv-05719-CRB

<u>D.M.S. v. Uber, Inc.</u>, Case No. 3:24-cv-05606-CRB